

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:  MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY	DOCKET NO. RPU-04-2 (TF-04-150, APP-96-1, RPU-96-8)
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**ORDER GRANTING RECONSIDERATION**

(Issued November 9, 2004)

On September 27, 2004, the Utilities Board (Board) issued an "Order Approving Cooper Tracker Revisions and Requiring Additional Information Regarding Full Equalization" (Cooper Tracker Order). The Cooper Tracker Order, among other things, required MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) to file various plans to fully equalize and consolidate zonal electric rates. The Cooper Tracker Order specified four plans that were required, but indicated MidAmerican could "also file other plans for consideration" and that "[t]he proposals may have different phase-in periods for the various customer classes because of disparity of impact of the phase-in periods for class members in lower-priced zones when compared to the relative benefit for class members in the higher-priced zones." (Cooper Tracker Order, p. 4). The Cooper Tracker Order also indicated that a proposed customer notice pursuant to Iowa Code § 476.6(5) should be filed in the event the Board proceeds with consideration of full equalization.

MidAmerican filed an application for rehearing of the Cooper Tracker Order on October 18, 2004. Included in the application was a revised partial plan to address some of the existing rate disparities. The Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice (Consumer Advocate) filed a response on October 28, 2004. Consumer Advocate asked that MidAmerican's application for rehearing be granted and its rate plan contained in the application approved. Ag Processing Inc and GELITA USA Inc. filed a response on November 1, 2004, also asking the Board to grant rehearing and approve MidAmerican's rate plan.

The Cooper Tracker Order only called for the filing of various rate equalization plans; it did not represent a decision to proceed with those plans. The Board was simply gathering information as it considered whether to require MidAmerican to file a rate equalization case. In the event the Board makes this determination, notice to customers will be required and a contested case proceeding will be commenced. The Cooper Tracker Order was therefore not a final decision or order of the Board in a contested case as defined in Iowa Code § 17A.16, and rehearing is not an available procedure at this time. The Board will treat MidAmerican's filing as a motion for reconsideration and will grant the motion for the purpose of allowing the Board adequate time to consider the rate proposal contained in the application. Part of the proposal is to extend by one year, through 2011, the existing restriction upon MidAmerican's ability to seek a general increase in electric rates and a continuation of revenue sharing, with certain additions and clarifications contained in the

application. As the Board reviews MidAmerican's proposal, the Board may issue a subsequent order or orders requesting additional information to complete the review.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

The application for rehearing filed by MidAmerican Energy Company on October 18, 2004, will be treated as a motion for reconsideration and is granted for purposes of allowing adequate time for consideration of MidAmerican's rate proposal contained in the application.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ Diane Munns

/s/ Mark O. Lambert

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper  
Executive Secretary

/s/ Elliott Smith

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2004.